6th August 1954]

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" As it is a very important question, I demand a half-hour debate."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I think I have sufficiently answered the question. I have conceded the point raised by the hon. Member."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has requested a half-hour debate and I am allowing it."

Quantity of foodgrains that became unsuitable for human consumption.

* 1111 *Q.*—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the quantity of foodgrains that became unsuitable for human consumption during the year 1953 in the Madras State and the total amount of loss due to this?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The total quantity of foodgrains that became unsuitable for human consumption during 1953 was about 10,345 maunds and the total amount of loss due to this was Rs. 4,03,918."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Who was responsible for allowing such foodgrains to become so bad and how much more of such stuff the Government have in stock? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is inevitable that when we have storage on a large scale, a portion of it gets deteriorated. When reduced to percentage, it works out to 0·03 per cent of the total quantity of foodgrains we dealt with."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know whether the spoiled foodgrains are used for any other purpose. If so, what is the amount realized therefrom? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If it is possible, it is used as cattle-feed. As to the amount realized by selling it as cattle-feed, a separate question may be put."

Provision of employment to the tramway labourers.

* 1112 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any action on the representations made by the Madras Electric Tramways Association not to prolong the state of unemployment of the tramway labourers ; and

(*b*) if so, the remedies proposed by the Government?